Idaho State Department of Agriculture Noxious Weeds Cost Share Grant
Accomplishments for 2003

Prepared 02/2004 by
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29 CWMA* Annual Operating Plans	$1,064,402	83%
9 Statewide Education or Applied Research	$213,585	17%
Total Amount of 2003 Funds Expended	**$1,277,987**	**100%**

Grant Fund Source	Expended Funds	
USFS Fire $	$ 28,029	2%
Idaho T&B	$ 279,731	22%
BLM $	$ 304,727	24%
USFS Non-Fire	$ 665,500	52%
Total	**$1,277,987**	**100%**

Matching Partner Contributions**

Private Landowners	Non-federal	Other	Federal	**Total Match**
$1,544,285	$1,815,595	$275,276	$929,494	**$4,561,850**

***In 2003, Idaho CWMAs, Statewide Education, Task Force Groups and Applied Research Project partners matched every dollar spent from the ISDA grant with $3.57 or a 3.6 to 1 match ratio. They matched every dollar given to them with $2.84 in nonfederal funds or a 2.8 to 1 match ratio! And, these match ratios do not include any ISDA matching contribution, at this time.*

CWMA Acres Treated

Treated Acres (herbicide, manual and mechanical)	95,924
Treated Acres (BioC's 1 release = 5 acres treated)	14,430
Total Acres	**110,354**

CWMA Acres Revegetated

Total Revegetated Acres **1,848**

CWMA Acres Survey and Mapped

Surveyed Acres	304,020
Mapped Acres	27,018
Total Acres	**331,038**

CWMA Number of Public Contacts

Total Education and Information (Number of Public Contacts) **111,214 people**

*CWMA means Cooperative Weed Management Areas

2003 Idaho Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Accomplishment Summary

Adams CWMA

One hundred and eleven landowners participated in a post-wildfire project where 15,050 acres were mapped, treated and reseeded. Community projects included Big Bar where 18 people braved the slopes to treat Diffuse knapweed, a Weed Education Program attended by 62 people, and the Summer Weed Tour attended by 45 people. Biological control project included Leafy spurge flea beetles released on Bacon Creek and the Little Weiser River with other agents released on Rush skeletonweed and Purple loosestrife.

Black Snake CWMA

With CWMA support, students developed printed material and presentations, gave talks, worked with local media, created usable maps, and went door-to-door addressing weed issues in their communities. New mapping efforts focused on Conservation Reserve Program. lands again using students. Thirty seven landowners participated in a "Neighborhood Watch" program where the CWMA assisted landowners with training, equipment, and chemicals. The CWMA sponsored two workshops/tours in cooperation with the Blackfoot River Watershed Council.

Blaine CWMA

The CWMA sponsored two "Weed-Out" days where lectures and distribution of educational materials rounded out a day of weed pulling. The CWMA sponsored the distribution of a noxious weed awareness flier included in the Blaine County tax notices and a "Bug Crew". The "Bug Crew" consisted of six students and one teacher from Wood River Middle School. The crew established insectory sites, harvested and distributed biological control agents and monitored previous release sites.

Boise Basin CWMA

The CWMA attributes the treatment of over 430 acres of Spotted knapweed to three community spray days where private landowners obtained information on weed identification, use of equipment, and safety. After attending, land owners could "check out" backpack sprayers in order to treat their property. The Atlanta area project resulted in 1,400 acres being treated.

Camas Creek CWMA

Educational activities included fair displays, newspaper and television releases, development of weed awareness signage, and a new interpretive brochure. A top priority is the eradication of Rush skeletonweed within the CWMA boundaries. The CWMA continued to support the Fairfield Bug Crew consisting of two students and one teacher. The Bug Crew maintains and monitors Spotted Knapweed biological control agent insectaries.

Clearwater Basin CWMA

Twenty-two miles of trails in the Selway watershed were treated by the Back Country Horsemen of Central Idaho using horseback sprayers. A three person crew from the Student Conservation Association surveyed portions of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness for a 12 week period. Early detection of Leafy spurge, Yellow starthistle, and Meadow hawkweed along the Lochsa and South Fork of the Clearwater drainages was assisted by the University of Idaho Early Detection Team. A helicopter herbicide application was used along Harris Ridge to slow advancing Yellow starthistle.

Continental Divide CWMA

Chemical control projects were completed in the Mud Lake, Medicine Lodge, and Beaver Creek areas. Sheep were used along Medicine Lodge Sinks to reduce seed production and canopy cover of Leafy spurge. Insects were also used to control Leafy spurge. An estimated 6,835 acres were treated in 2003.

Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness CWMA

The CWMA along with the Western White Water Association, landowners, and USFS personnel treated the Campbell's Ferry area targeting approximately 150 acres infested with Spotted knapweed and Sulfur cinquefoil. Also, the CWMA partnered with the Student Conservation Association to do weed surveys. Additionally, other areas within the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness were treated.

Henry's Fork CWMA

Projects included supporting two students and one teacher from South Fremont Junior High School to map noxious weed locations. The students mapped over 800 locations. Several weeds were targeted with biological control agents including Leafy spurge, Spotted knapweed, and Dalmatian toadflax. Chemical control focused on some of the following noxious weed species: Leafy spurge, Diffuse and Spotted knapweed, Yellow and Dalmatian toadflax, Dyer's woad, Purple loosestrife, and Black henbane.

Highlands CWMA

The CWMA continued to be involved with local schools by giving presentations and sponsoring an essay contest. A total of 309 students submitted essays. The "Bag of Woad" program resulted in the collection of 40 tons of Dyer's woad. Additionally, an "Adopt and Area" program was developed where groups signed up to keep an area free of Dyer's woad during the summer months. Five workdays were sponsored with 119 participants treating 321 acres.

Inland Empire CWMA

The CWMA held a coordination meeting with Selkirk CWMA at the beginning of field season, hired two mapping technicians and one GIS technician to continue updating maps. Four cooperative work days were conducted targeting Blueweed, Spotted knapweed, and Dalmatian toadflax and hosted a Weed Symposium. Neighborhood cooperatives treated over 2,300 acres. Eurasian watermilfoil control efforts continued on Spirit and Hayden Lakes with 46 tons being removed by divers and 80 acres treated chemically.

Joseph Plains CWMA

New invaders like Spotted knapweed and Leafy spurge were a priority for the CWMA. Treatment focused on new outbreaks of established invaders and maintaining containment lines. Biological control efforts focused on Yellow Starthistle. Prevention and education activities included placing "Weed Wanted" posters at Hammer Creek Campground.

Lemhi CWMA

Chemical treatment areas include Clear Creek, Kertley Creek, Mormon Ranch, Rooster Comb, and Pine Creek focusing on Rush skeletonweed, Leafy spurge, Spotted knapweed, and *Berteroa incana*. Ninety-five landowners participated in the herbicide cost share program and three community spray days were held in Leadore, Salmon, and Gibbonsville. Goat grazing was used to treat Leafy spurge and Spotted knapweed in several areas.

Lost River CWMA

The LRCWMA ran noxious weed prevention advertisements in the Arco Advisor and sponsored a mailing of information on target weeds to landowners. The "Bug Bombing" project - releasing biological control agents by helicopter - targeted portions of the Lost River Range and White Knob Mountains. Butte County sponsored two tours in Howe and Antelope Creek. The "War on Weeds" project involved using six local high school students to map areas of the INEEL. Additional, Highway 93, right-of-ways, and several drainages associated with Crater's of the Moon National Monument were mapped. Additionally, 80.7 acres were treated on the Lost River Ranger District.

Lower Payette CWMA

Mapping efforts included the Paddock Valley area and Gem County Johnsongrass infestations. Russian knapweed and Purple soosestrife were targeted new invaders. Treatment for Eurasian watermilfoil continued in Donoho and Greenbelt Ponds. Treatment for many weed species occurred on several Snake River Islands including Little Banks and Birding Island to slow spread via the river. Over 40 people attended the Paddock Valley weed tour in mid-June.

Lower Weiser River CWMA

The CWMA held its third annual hay exchange on Highway 95 at the opening of elk season. Two tons of uncertified hay was exchanged for certified noxious weed free hay. All known sites of Yellow starthistle and Dalmatian toadflax were mapped and treated. Education was promoted through an Open House, and sponsoring a high school poster contest, private applicator training, and county fair booth. The CWMA conducted a goat grazing project where 1,289 nannies with kids grazed 1,296 acres of the Weiser River Corridor targeting Leafy spurge.

Minidoka Snake River Corridor CWMA

The CWMA purchase two ATVs which were successfully utilized to GPS weed areas and control many noxious weeds on various properties.

Northside Tri-County CWMA

Education and prevention activities included inspections of gravel pits, displays at local county fairs, and conducting public meetings. Eradication efforts focused on Dalmatian Toadflax, Dyer's Woad, and Perennial Pepperweed. The CWMA supported a "Bug Crew" where students from the local schools maintained and monitored biological control agent insectaries.

Palouse CWMA

Projects included completing an extensive inventory of the Meadow Creek Tansy ragwort populations, hosting a weed identification class, and placing booths at the Latah and Clearwater County Fairs. The CWMA completed the first year of a two year project to establish a public vehicle wash station in an area infested with Tansy ragwort

Power CWMA

The Power CWMA displayed weed billboards along highways promoting weed awareness and control. They also sponsored an award program for tips leading to the discovery of new invaders & two students were hired to map portions of the CWMA. Control efforts focused on 2002 fire areas and new invaders targeted for eradication.

Salmon River CWMA

Several species within the CWMA are targeted for eradication. The CWMA continues to monitor those areas to confirm eradications. Worked with University of Idaho Early Detection Team to survey for Orange hawkweed, Toothed spurge, Matgrass, Dyer's woad and Japanese knotweed. Treatment was focused on satellite infestations and transportation corridors. The CWMA sponsored three field trips, one range management workshop and one calibration workshop.

Selkirk CWMA

New invaders and small infestation control was a priority in 2003. An intensive effort to reduce the seed and transplant source of Scotch broom was conducted on a 120 acre island. Biological control efforts including hosting a Spotted knapweed field day and supporting a Biological Control Liaison. "Neighborhood Cooperative" projects treated 2,244 acres and hosted a Weed Demonstration Day with 126 people attending.

Shoshone Basin CWMA

Russian knapweed, Whitetop (Hoary cress), and other priority weeds were treated in the Deep Creek, Duck Springs, and Cottonwood Creek projects areas. Additionally, 110 acres of previously infested ground in Duck Springs were seeded with Siberian wheatgrass.

South Fork of the Boise River CWMA

The CWMA sponsored two community spray days where private landowners obtained information on weed identification, use of equipment, and safety were held in Prairie and Pine/Featherville. Follow-up roadside spraying was done in those communities. Local 4-H members assisted with a certified noxious weed free hay exchange. Students from Mountain Home High School learned to identify, transport, release and rear Spotted knapweed biological control agents within the CWMA.

Tri-State Demonstration CWMA

The CWMA participated in many education efforts including spending two days with seventh graders at Jenifer Junior High, participating in "Project Learning Tree," and sponsoring the Second Annual Herbicide Application Workshop and two weed tours. 14,000 acres were inventoried using the "SWAT" team and fixed wing survey. Control measures included an aerial spraying project were the spray sites and paths were determined by GPS and a trial method using machetes to reduce seed production in Scotch Thistle and Teasel. Yellow starthistle continues to be a focus of biological control efforts.

Upper Payette CWMA

Several cooperative spray days were conducted treating the Lowman, Canaday Ranch, City of McCall, and Montour areas. Eurasian watermilfoil removal projects were conducted on the Horseshoe Bend Millpond, Montour Wildlife Recreation Area, and Payette Lake resulting in 42,000 pounds of E. watermilfoil being removed from Payette Lake alone. With assistance from CWMA partners, Horseshoe Bend High School students conducted a small study on the effects on Rush skeletonweed density using horse grazing. Neighborhood projects in Boise and Gem Counties resulted in the control of 538 acres of Scotch thistle on private lands.

Upper Snake CWMA

The USCWMA sponsored two spray days and produced a 2004 weed calendar. 10,000 acres were surveyed and 3,100 acres mapped by high school students in the Solutions program. Sixteen species of insects (518 colonies) were released on various infestations of Leafy spurge, Spotted knapweed, Canada thistle, Musk thistle, Purple loosestrife, and Yellow toadflax. Chemical treatments focused on Swan Valley, Dan Creek, Tex Creek Wildlife Management Area, and right-of-ways owned by the Eastern Idaho Railroad.

Utah and Idaho CWMA

Over 77 tons of Dyer's woad was collected through the "Bag of Woad" program. The program was sponsored by several local businesses and received local newspaper and radio coverage. The fifth annual essay contest received submissions from five different high schools. Five spray days were conducted and the Bannock Showcase project completed its sixth season targeting Leafy spurge with a combination of goat grazing, chemical control and insect releases.

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Statewide

Eurasian Watermilfoil Task Force

The objective of this task force, a subcommittee of the Idaho Invasive Species Council, for 2003 was to complete an initial assessment of the scope of the distribution of Eurasian watermilfoil in Idaho. In the spring of 2003, a mail-out survey was delivered to all of Idaho's counties. 26 of 44 counties responded by providing information to the survey. The task force developed a priority ranking process for Idaho's water bodies and 66 sites in 22 counties, mainly in the southern part of the state, were physically surveyed and classified. At the conclusions of 2003, the task force reported that the eastern part of our state is still free of E. watermilfoil and made recommendations to the Idaho Invasive Species Council on how to keep those water bodies clear of E. milfoil.

Hawkweed Biological Control Consortium

The goal of the consortium is to support and fund the screening and, ultimately, the importation of biological control agents for Hawkweed. Host specificity testing was completed for two root-feeding flies. Additional insects were acquired and shipped to CABI Bioscience laboratory for testing. Open field tests on a gall wasp and gall midge are expected to be conducted in 2004.

Hoary Cress Biological Control Consortium

The goal of the consortium is to support and fund the screening and, ultimately, the importation of biological control agents for Hoary cress. Five field trips resulting in 24 sample sites in seven countries were sampled in 2003. Seven phytophagous insects have

been selected for further study as biological control agents. The growth, vigor and herbivory studies on hoary cress infestations between Europe and the Western U.S. were completed. The test plant species list for the assessment of the host-specificity is nearly complete.

Houndstongue Biological Control Consortium

2003 efforts focused on conducting research on the environmental safety of the Houndstongue root-weevil. Non-target attack monitoring continued in southern Alberta and southern British Columbia. Suspected 'spill-over' effects were noted but research is on-going. Plant material of threatened or endangered listed Boraginaceae species was obtained allowing for host range experiments with the Threatened or Endangered target plants to begin testing.

Lucky Peak/Barber Pool Conservation Area

The 2003 objectives included reducing the Scotch thistle infestations within the Conservation Area and monitor the 2002 biological control release on Purple loosestrife. 92 acres of the Conservation Area were searched resulting in the treatment of over 10 acres of Scotch thistle.

Nez Perce Biocontrol Center

The Center receives information regarding biological control agent releases then enters the information into a database and provides reports and maps of agent distribution to public and private land managers. The Center, with assistance from the University of Idaho, conducted bio-control workshops throughout the state to increase awareness and implement the use of biological control organisms for weed control.

Rush Skeletonweed Taskforce

The mission of the Taskforce is to reduce and spot the spread of Rush skeletonweed, and reduce its impact by maximizing the effectiveness of integrated control methods across all land ownerships. 2003 focused on the insect *Bradyrrhoa gilveolella*. The insect is being reared in Bozeman, MT in preparation for release. Both a laboratory colony and insectory have been established in Idaho. Additional insect collections were made in Greece and new populations were identified in Greece and Bulgaria. Ten potential additional agents have been identified as impacting native Rush skeletonweed populations.

University of Idaho

An eradication mapping system was assembled for in-field mapping of infestations using IPACs and ArcPad software. Surveys were conducted by a four person crew. Surveys were conducted throughout the state focusing on species that were considered to be in low densities in those areas. Additionally, three one-day workshops were held. A total of 128 people attended. The Erickson Diagnostic Laboratory received 289 specimens for identification in 2003. One new Pacific Northwest species and one new state species were identified, as well as, 37 species that were new to county records.